



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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Sen. Allen, Rep. Walker introduce legislation to help Kingsley High School

Lansing – State Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, and state Rep. Howard Walker, R-Traverse City, introduced legislation today to provide Kingsley High School administrators with additional options for scheduling classes.

Both Senate Bill 1100 and House Bill 5666 would allow up to an additional 20 hours of instruction to be waived so the school can keep their School Aid funding.

“This legislation will allow the school district to continue with the school year and finish in time for their scheduled graduation,” Allen said. “Additionally, it will protect the school’s funding so they are not penalized due to the lost time from the closing of the school.”

Last month, Kingsley High School was closed due to extensive roof damage from snow buildup, which cancelled classes. Students missed several days of school while administrators and the community worked on a plan to continue classes.

Allen and Walker had a first-hand look at the damage as they toured the school last month, inspecting the roof trusses and seeing the damage done from the collapse.

“It’s obvious that it is going to take a great deal of time before the building is safe for use again,” Walker said after seeing the bent and broken beams. “We are working our hardest to make sure this incident has the least impact on Kingsley students and their education as possible.”

Both lawmakers have informed state legislative leaders and the governor about the situation in Kingsley. They have been working with the chairs of the education committees and appropriation sub-committees in both chambers to keep them apprised of the situation.

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After discussions with the governor and the state superintendent, it was determined that the best way to solve the issue of school instruction hours would be through legislative means.

“We have received the support of the senate majority leader and the speaker of the house for Kingsley,” Allen said. “With their support, we look to take care of this legislation in a very efficient manner.”

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